THE
Dan Smoot Report

Vol. 16, No. 32 (Broadcast 781) August 10, 1970 Dallas, Texas

DAN SMOOT

A COMMUNIST IS A COMMUNIST IS A COMMUNIST

Youth has always been idealistic, and a bit arrogant in its idealism. The faults and mistakes of oldsters are easily apparent to youngsters, and the road signs to man-made paradise seem obvious to them. Not having lived long enough to know the grim truth about the weakness that flesh is heir to, young people — unselfishly wanting a perfect world for everyone — naively believe they could create heaven on earth, if not blocked by the older generation.

If we can put men on the moon, why can we not solve the problems of poverty and human conflict on earth? Many youngsters (*and* oldsters who have the maturity of adolescents) consider that question a devastating indictment of a generation which has put men on the moon while failing to solve the ancient problems of human behavior here on our own sphere.

Eventually, the experiences of living will teach many of these young ones the lesson already learned by some of their elders: intelligence, hard work, determination, and cooperative effort can harness the natural, comprehensible, and immutable physical laws of the universe and put them to work effectively on *things* for mankind. But the accumulated knowledge and wisdom of the human races and the most determined effort by the sagest of men cannot produce understanding, much less effective management, of the incomprehensible behavior of billions of incomprehensible human individuals.

It is good that each new generation of youth thinks it can create utopia. This is the faith that keeps men forever trying. Continuing effort by succeeding generations militates against regression, and even produces some improvements through the long sweep of time.

But youthful idealism does often create antagonism between the generations.

Not very many thoughtful over-thirty people forget completely what they were like in the early springtime of their lives. Hence, they do understand and tolerate — even cherish and admire — the bright zeal of youth to eliminate in one season all the errors committed and compounded by their

THE DAN SMOOT REPORT is published weekly by The Dan Smoot Report, Inc., Box 9538, Dallas, Texas 75214 (office at 6441 Gaston Ave.). Subscriptions: $18.00 for 2 years; $10.00, 1 year; $6.00, 6 months. Dan Smoot was born in Missouri, reared in Texas. With BA and MA degrees from SMU (1938 and 1940), he joined the Harvard faculty (1941) as a Teaching Fellow, doing graduate work in American civilization. From 1942 to 1951, he was an FBI agent; from 1951 to 1955, a commentator on national radio and television. In 1955, he started his present independent, free-enterprise business: publishing this REPORT and abbreviating it each week for radio and TV broadcasts available for commercial sponsorship by business firms.

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forebears through countless centuries.

Because the problems of human society seem to the young so much in need of solution, and so easy to solve, idealistic youngsters develop an inflated opinion of themselves, a contemptuous attitude toward their elders. Either the elders cannot comprehend, or — what is worse — they are too greedy, selfish, narrow, and fearful to care!

This moral arrogance of youth is a natural product of youthful idealism. It has always been a bit exasperating for the older generation; but, thank God, it generally becomes ludicrous before it becomes intolerable. Such transformation tends to ease tensions between the generations, and often signifies the beginning of a new cycle: rebellious youngsters of one generation, having failed to reform the world, will soon become a part of the over-thirty establishment; and their children will be rebelling against the imperfections of the *new* old-order.

So it is in our time as in times gone by; but, in our time, it seems to be more so.

We have heard much of late about the superiority of today's youths: allegedly (though by no means provably), they are more intelligent, more learned, more compassionate, more "committed" than any previous generation of youngsters; being made of finer stuff than oldsters were, today's youngsters will set the world aright when their time comes.

Well, we shall see. Or, perhaps we have just seen, if we were looking while the United Nations World Youth Assembly was in session.

In connection with the celebration of its 25th anniversary, the United Nations called the World Youth Assembly (July 8-17, 1970) to give the young generation of saints and statesmen a chance to prove it has risen above the conflicts that divide the world. The idealistic motives and uncorrupted thoughts of young people from all over the world would be brought to bear on social and political sores that have festered and grown worse in the care of oldsters who have been running the United Nations for 25 years.

UN Secretary General U Thant greeted the delegates to the World Youth Assembly by expressing hope that they could throw off the old shackles of nationalism, and develop "a new patriotism which is the patriotism of man."

That socialist appeal to one-worldism seemed to mesmerize youth delegates from the United States. Throughout the ten-day assembly, they went around telling everyone they were not there to defend the United States. Indeed, none, but one, of our delegates seemed to have a clear idea of *why* he was there. The one U. S. delegate (age 22) who did seem to know exactly why he was attending the UN World Youth Assembly, and what he was supposed to do, publicly condemned, as "imperialistic oppression," U. S. policies in Southeast Asia, Latin America, South Africa, and the Middle East.

The Soviet delegates, of course, came to the UN World Youth Assembly armed with precise instructions, and with the clear, fixed, unnegotiable purpose of making the assembly serve the cause of communism.

Being "liberal" and "idealistic," but with no definable ideals in their heads (or being pro-communist), U. S. delegates to the UN World Youth Assembly sat in silence as the Soviet delegation took the lead.

The Soviets initiated proceedings with a propaganda attack on South Korea, South Vietnam, and nationalist China, demanding that their delegates be expelled from the Youth Assembly. One after another, delegates from other communist nations, and "liberal" delegates from non-communist countries, rose to parrot the Soviet line.

A British delegate appealed to them to remember that they had come to present fresh viewpoints, not to repeat the same old propaganda tirades that have characterized official UN "debates" for a quarter of a century. Eventually, the U. S. delegation rallied a bit. The question of expelling America's Asian friends from the world

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assembly was put to a vote, and the communist effort to expel them was defeated.

But the real work of the gathering was not to be done in full assembly. It was to be done in four selected groups which were assigned the task of drawing up resolutions for the full assembly to consider and vote on. The most important group was the Peace Commission. Among the Soviet "youth" delegates were many balding, professional diplomats. Under their direction, communists and pro-communists tightly controlled the Peace Commission. The chairman of the Commission (a Palestinian refugee) distinguished himself by his arrogance toward all delegates who opposed anything proposed by communists.

On Monday night, July 13, 1970, youth delegates from South Korea, South Vietnam, and nationalist China were scheduled to speak at a meeting of the Peace Commission. Since the full assembly had already voted against expelling these delegates, the Peace Commission chairman (though obviously a Soviet puppet) ruled that the anti-communist delegates could speak. At that point, the Soviet delegates took over directly, contrived to silence all opposition, and, in the end, led a majority of the communist-controlled Peace Commission in a vote to overrule the chairman. America's Asian allies were not allowed to speak.

Two Americans led a walk-out to protest the power tactics of the "undemocratic left" which had packed and rigged the Peace Commission. "Undemocratic left" means *communists*. The protesting Americans belong to the "democratic left," which means *socialists*. But communists are also socialists; and the ultimate goal of communists and socialists is the same. Whenever communists and socialists have any dispute about procedures and method, the communists always prevail, because the undisciplined "democratic left" simply cannot cope with the power tactics of the disciplined "undemocratic left."

And so it was at the United Nations World Youth Assembly. The Soviets retained control of the Peace Commission and directed it in performing the task planned for it before the Soviet delegates ever left Moscow: the preparation of a report denouncing the United States. The report (written by delegates from Cuba, East Germany, Guinea, and Pakistan, and by the Peace Commission chairman) was finished Thursday, July 16, 1970. It was a 10-point indictment of the United States — demanding "freedom" from the United States for Puerto Rico, and "restitution" of the Panama Canal "to its rightful owners"; condemning the U. S. for its role in Vietnam and for its "rapacious" Latin American policy; and so on.

On Friday night, July 17, 1970, at the final session of the United Nations World Youth Assembly, UN Secretary General U Thant again spoke to the assembly, praising it for its "friendly atmosphere and spirit of cooperation."

Immediately thereafter, the Peace Commission's report criticizing the United States was presented to the assembly, and declared adopted without a vote. This feat was performed by Lars Thalen of Sweden, who presided over the final session. Thalen ruled that the assembly did not have power to reject a report by its own commission. A challenge to the legality of Thalen's ruling was led by Israeli delegates and by one delegate from Scotland. Throughout the debate, America's five delegates sat on their hands, doing and saying nothing.

Eventually, Thalen put to the assembly the question of whether he was right in his ruling. By a 3 to 2 vote, the assembly upheld him; and the Peace Commission's report against the United States was considered adopted.

Thalen then presented a resolution which he himself had prepared as chairman of the World Youth Assembly's steering committee. This resolution called upon the United Nations General Assembly to demand "immediate cessation" of U. S. "aggression" in Indochina, and to condemn the "racist regimes" of South Africa and Rhodesia. This resolution was voted approved by the World Youth Assembly.

Estimated cost of the ten-day United Nations World Youth Assembly was $750 thousand. U. S.

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taxpayers pay more than a third of all United Nations assessed costs, and about two-thirds of all "voluntary contributions" to the UN and its specialized agencies. Hence, we can calculate that it cost us about a half a million dollars to have "youths" from some 113 nations of the world come to the UN in New York and spend ten days preparing and adopting reports and resolutions condemning us.

After it was all over, Sissel Ronbeck, 20-year-old Norwegian delegate to the UN youth assembly, summed it up dolefully:

"I guess the most valuable part of the conference was that some people have lost the illusion that youth are a homogeneous group and more capable of international cooperation than their elders."

That is a valuable lesson; but was it not as obvious before the communist-UN youth extravaganza as now? The UN youth gathering reemphasized an even more valuable lesson in which there was really no need for further instruction: namely, that a communist is a communist is a communist.

This is a lesson our government has learned a thousand times over in the past 50 years, but never really heeds.

Communists do not change, unless they become non-communists. *Peace* means to communists today exactly what *peace* meant to communists in the days of Lenin: absence of all resistance to communist conquest.

Communists have the same simple, inflexible purpose today they had 50 years ago: conquest of the world.

Communists do not now, and never did, negotiate with non-communists to achieve mutually-beneficial agreements. They negotiate to gain advantage exclusively for themselves, by trickery and deceit. If they give concessions to get concessions, they never keep their word, when keeping it requires them to do something they do not wish to do, or to refrain from doing something they want done. They assume, however, that the other side, trying to keep its word, will be bound by the concessions it makes.

All of this having been known for half a century, and having been demonstrated over and over again by communists themselves, it is suicidal folly for the United States to negotiate or debate with communists (in the United Nations, in bilateral meetings, in disarmament talks, or elsewhere) *anything* that affects vital national interests of the United States.

The only kind of "negotiation" that communists respect is an ultimatum backed by enough power to be enforced.

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SOURCES

Details about the 1970 United Nations World Youth Assembly were taken from AP stories, July 14, 19, 20; UPI stories, July 17, 18; Virginia Payette column, July 20; *Dallas Morning News* editorial, July 11; *Dallas Times Herald* editorial, July 21.

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